

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

1. MAN-EATING TIGER IN SOUTH INDIA

In view of the paucity of records of man-eating tigers in South India, it may be worth recording that this month a tigress with cubs killed, dragged off, and devoured a Sholaga at Gundimalam, Kollegal Taluk, Coimbatore District. I just missed bagging the man-eater by a stroke of ill-luck one evening; and she and her cubs cannot now be located. Only one member of the victim's family remains; four others also met with death in the jungle; two fell from trees and were killed; one was mauled by a panther and died; and another was fatally gored by a bison. Only after we had located and collected the man's remains (and his bill-hook and clothes) would the sholagas of Gundimalam accompany me in my search for the tigress. Until the remains were found and gathered it would be, they said, courting disaster to go after a man-eater.

HONNAMETTI ESTATE,
ATTIKAN P.O.,
via MYSORE (S. INDIA),
October 29, 1953.

R. C. MORRIS

2. PANTHER KILLED BY DOMESTIC BUFFALOES

I have often heard of domestic buffaloes and cattle defending themselves against and sometimes attacking felines though I have not previously come across a case of a kill.

Recently here, a herd of buffaloes had just been driven into a stone kraal for the night when a fairly small though full-grown male panther jumped for an instant onto the bank and, the poles not being fixed, stampeded the herd.

The panther then retired to a position on an open grassy slope below the kraal where in the haste of the moment he apparently let himself be surrounded by the herd and was immediately attacked by a big herd bull.

On the second day he was brought in and had evidently died as a result of the encounter the same night. There was a deep gore under the left shoulder and another in the neck.

I understand that two buffaloes were killed out of the same herd the previous week but I am unable to say whether this was the work of a tiger or panther as unfortunately they were not reported at the time. Evidently the herd was ready to deal with their aggressor on this occasion.

CURZON ESTATE,
KOTAGIRI P.O.,
NILGIRIS (S. INDIA),
January 2, 1954.

J. M. POWER